

REMARKS

As indicated above, the current Office Action dated August 11, 2006 specified that Claims 1-5, 9, 10 and 12 are allowed; and claims 6 and 7 are rejected in this current Office Action. Applicant has amended independent claim 6 to distinguish TOY et al (US 5,550,864) and respectfully requests that the rejection of independent claim 6 and claim 7 which depends from claim 6 be withdrawn, and the application passed to issue.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 102

In this current Office Action, paragraphs 4 and 5, the Office has indicated that claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b), as being anticipated by TOY et al (US 5,550,864). With respect to independent claim 6 and claim 7, which depends from claim 6, Applicant respectfully believes that TOY et al discloses in fact a very different system. As apparent from Figures 9 and 10 of Toy, Toy creates a special RX encoded signal 191 wherein the signal is redundant and appears twice per period of the clock, at precise positions 191-63 and 191-73 in Figure 9, twice per clock period. Then, this redundant signal can be decoded by a circuit as shown in Figure 10.

On the contrary, the present invention uses a normal signal, as shown for example under reference A in Figure 7B, 8B or 10B. The circuit of the invention, as shown for example in Figure 7A, allows for recognizing when an error appears in such a normal signal.

In order only to more precisely clarify the shape of the signal that is decoded according to Claim 6 of the present invention, Applicant amends claim 6 as follows:

Claim 6. (Currently Amended): A circuit protected against transient disturbances, the circuit comprising:

a combinatory logic circuit having at least one output, said at least one output having a value at an occurrence of a clock edge and maintaining this value at least for a determined time period in the absence of disturbances;

a first flip-flop connected to said at least one output and rated by a clock,~~the first flip-flop being connected to receive said output;~~
a second flip-flop connected to said at least one output and rated by the clock delayed by a predetermined ~~duration~~ delay shorter than said time period; and
a circuit for analyzing outputs of the flip-flops, the analysis circuit indicating an error if the flip-flop outputs are different.

This clearly distinguishes Applicants claim 6 from the invention of Toy.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this Section 102 rejection be withdrawn with respect to Applicant's amended independent claim 6, and also with respect to claim 7, which depends from amended independent claim 6.

CONCLUSION


As indicated above, Claims 6 and 7 have been shown to be allowable. It is therefore respectfully submitted that pending claims 1-7, 9, 10 and 12 are now allowable and it is requested that the application be passed to issue.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time, and requests that the undersigned be called as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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